

Appln. No. 10/085,913
March 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of November 18, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

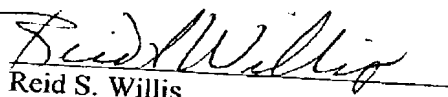
Response to Rejection under 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 7, 9, and 13 have been rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent 5,859,111 (Kukkala et al.). Applicants have rendered these rejections moot by submission of an affidavit under 37 CFR 1.131 by Dr. James J. Jakubowski. As the affidavit and accompanying exhibits show, Dr. Jakubowski prepared the polyurethane/urea latex of the present invention prior to the §102(e) date, December 18, 1996. Accordingly, Applicants have removed Kukkala et al. as a reference.

Conclusions

For the above-stated reasons, Applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be granted for Claims 7, 9, and 13.

Respectfully submitted,



Reid S. Willis

Registration No. 39,429

Phone: 248-829-2902

Date: 3/16/04
P. O. Box 1967
Midland, MI 48641-1967